

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O 120934Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 2408

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4839

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR,SS, SP, MO, MR, AG, US

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA

REFS: (A) SECTO 60041; (B) MADRID 4691

1. UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ROVIRA HAS JUST TOLD ME THAT INSTRUCTIONS WERE SENT JULY 11 TO SPANISH UN REP REQUESTING HIM TO APPROACH WALDHEIM IMMEDIATELY TO URGE HIM TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES IN CONVOKING A FOUR-POWER MEETING ON SPANISH SAHARA UNDER UN AUSPICES. SPANISH UN REP INSTRUCTED TO STRESS THE VIEW THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BE CALLED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF THE CHARTER THAT ALL MEMBERS ARE OBLIGED TO COOPERATE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE. THUS, GOS WOULD EXPECT THAT MOROCCO, ALGERIA AND MAURITANIA WOULD ABSTAIN FROM ALL AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST THE SAHARA PENDING NEGOTIATIONS UNDER UN AUSPICES.1"

2. ROVIRA SAID THAT WHEN WALDHEIM WAS IN MADRID LAST MONTH, HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A PREVIEW OF THE SPANISH POSI-
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TION WHICH WAS TO MAKE ONE MORE ATTEMPT TO CONVOKE A FOUR-

POWER CONFERENCE IN MADRID ON JULY 9 AND THEN, IF THAT FAILED, TO SEEK UN SPONSORSHIP. WALDHEIM WAS ALSO TOLD OF SPANISH DETERMINATION TO LEAVE THE SAHARA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GOS HOPED THAT WALDHEIM WOULD ENERGETICALLY PURSUE THE INITIATIVE TO CONVOKE A CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK.

3. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, ROVIRA SAID THAT SPANISH INFORMATION IS THAT MOROCCO AND ALGERIA HAVE NOT REACHED AGREEMENT AND HE WAS FRANKLY SKEPTICAL THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

4. FINALLY, ROVIRA AGAIN REFERRED TO HIS DISCUSSION WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND INDICATED HIS HOPE THAT NOW THAT SPAIN HAD TURNED TO THE UN, USG MIGHT BE HELPFUL WITH WALDHEIM IN ENCOURAGING HIM TO MOVE FORWARD ON A FOUR-POWER MEETING UNDER UN AUSPICES.

5. COMMENT: I RECOMMEND THAT I NOW BE INSTRUCTED (REF (B)) TO INFORM GOS THAT USG WILL APPROACH WALDHEIM TO SUPPORT SPANISH PROPOSAL THAT FOUR-POWER CONFERENCE ON SPANISH SAHARA BE CALLED UNDER UN AUSPICES.

STABLER

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